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MORE SNARES IN SHUBIE PARK

CONCERN GROWS AS PET STORE OWNER WONDERS
IF DOGS ARE BEING TARGETED

PAGE 3

HALIFAX

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Wednesday, April 11, 2012



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FACING DEFEAT

PAGE 23

Halifax Mooseheads goalie Zachary Fucale stops a wrap-around attempt by Quebec Remparts forward Anthony Duclair during the second period of Tuesday night's QMJHL playoff game at the Metro Centre. Quebec managed to score five times in a 5-3 victory over the Mooseheads to take a commanding 3-0 series lead heading into Wednesday night's game. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

A 'terrible' day for CBC

Public broadcaster.

More jobs cut in Halifax, programs getting the axe



PHILIP CROUCHER
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A dozen job losses at CBC Halifax, while four locally produced programs are getting the plug pulled out from them.

All of this news came down Tuesday as more details of how Canada's public broadcaster would be dealing with a \$225-million shortfall were released.

"Terrible day. Terrible day," said Andrew Cochran, managing director, Maritimes, for CBC English Services.

One week after learning the CBC in Nova Scotia was losing its network production studio in Halifax and a multi-million-dollar development project planned for Bell Road — all of which will eventually see 14 people be out of work — there was another tough pill to swallow Tuesday.

Three job cuts are coming to the Halifax newsroom of

Quoted

"There was a lot of news to absorb today."

Andrew Cochran, CBC

the CBC — one VJ, one reporter and one videographer. The newsroom will also not be filling a vacant managing-editor role, and three people will be out of work in network operations.

The other five job losses are a result of the cancellation of four programs all produced in Halifax. They are CBC Radio One's All The Best and Close To Home, Radio Two's Connections and TV's At The Table.

"We are the biggest region in the country and it didn't come as a surprise that we would have to shoulder one of the biggest cuts in the country," said Cochran, who was happy to see no job losses in Sydney, Charlottetown, Moncton, N.B., and Saint John, N.B.

A decision on who will be losing their jobs hasn't been made, he added.

More coverage, page 15

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'Careless use of a firearm'

Police charge 4 in Sackville shooting

An 18-year-old Timberlea man has been charged with criminal negligence causing bodily harm in relation to a shooting last month in Lower Sackville.

On March 30, a 21-year-old man arrived at the Cobequid Community Health Centre with a gunshot wound.

Police believe the victim was shot inside a home on Manor Drive. He was later transferred to the QEII Health Sciences Centre where he continues to recover from surgery.

On Tuesday, Halifax RCMP announced charges against four men relating to the shooting, including against the 18-year-old, who police believe shot the victim accidentally.

"The investigation revealed this was a case of a careless use of a firearm," said Halifax RCMP spokeswoman Sgt. Tammy Lobb.

In total, the 18-year-old is facing six weapons-related charges. A 21-year-old Timberlea man and 17-year-old Halifax man are up on five weapons-related offences, while a 19-year-old Upper Tantallon man is charged with obstruction and public mischief.

All four have been released and will appear in court next month.

PHILIP CROUCHER/METRO

Investigation

Halifax RCMP spokeswoman Sgt. Tammy Lobb said the parties involved were known to one another.



Rodney Habib, owner of pet store Planet Paws, examines the third snare found in Shubie Park with his dogs Sammie and Reggie. JENNIFER TAPLIN/METRO

More snares found in Shubie Park

Popular. About 3,000 people walk through popular Dartmouth locale on weekends



JENNIFER TAPLIN
jennifer.taplin@metronews.ca

Two more snares were found in Shubie Park on Tuesday, raising concerns for dog owners.

The first snare was discovered wrapped around a dog's neck last weekend. A man walking his dog found the second snare lying in the middle of a path Tuesday morning. Then a third, incomplete

snare was found shortly after. Coun. Darren Fisher and Rodney Habib, owner of nearby pet store Planet Paws, found the wire tied to a drooping branch — right at head level for a medium-sized dog.

"They had cut it and it looked like it was getting ready to be set up," Fisher said. "This is the first sign we've seen of a good, solid anchor."

Habib, who posted photos of the snares on social media, said about 20 hunters called him Tuesday morning to say the snares look very amateurish. A hunter's rabbit snare would have two loops and no release so it could capture and strangle the animal quickly.

Habib said these snares

look like a prank, but dog owners are worried.

"Everyone is very concerned about what's going on. Is this an attack on dogs?" he said, though he added that fear shouldn't stop people from visiting the park.

Instead, Habib is advising dog owners to be extra cautious and keep a close eye on their dogs in off-leash areas.

"It could only take a second for their animal to get trapped and they turn around and maybe suffocate," he said.

The snares were reported to the province's natural resources office in Waverley and officers are looking into it.

A spokesperson for the department said the season for snaring rabbits ended Feb. 29.



Coun. Darren Fisher with a snare found Tuesday. JENNIFER TAPLIN/METRO

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NEWS

On the web

Support website for Trayvon's killer is real

An attorney for George Zimmerman confirmed the authenticity of a new website that allows supporters to raise money for the neighbourhood-watch volunteer who has admitted to fatally shooting an unarmed black teen in Florida. Go to metronews.ca for the video and full story.

Mobile news



One of the best-kept secrets in television history has been revealed: The Simpsons creator Matt Groening has come clean on his inspiration for the animated hometown of Homer and family. Scan the code for the story.



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Scottish culture

Tartan Day
may soon be
recognized

Nova Scotia is proposing amended legislation to officially recognize Tartan Day.

Under the change to the Tartan Act, April 6 would be officially designated as Tartan Day.

Heritage Minister David Wilson says the move is meant to recognize the contributions of Scottish culture to the province's heritage.

The government says Nova Scotia would join five other provinces and the federal government in legislating Tartan Day.

The proposed amendment would also put the description of the Nova Scotia Tartan in legislation. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Dave Wilson. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Antigonish County

Fatality in single-
vehicle crash

A 68-year-old woman is dead following a single-vehicle crash in Antigonish County.

The RCMP were called to the accident near Linwood at 9:15 a.m. on Tuesday, with the victim pronounced dead at the scene. **METRO**

Blitz

Police to enforce
texting-and-
driving law

You've been warned.

Halifax police announced on Tuesday that during the month of April, members of its traffic unit will be coming down on people who talk and text

on their cellphones while driving.

Police say talking and texting on cellphones is the leading cause of collisions in Canada. It became illegal to talk and text while driving in Nova Scotia on April 1, 2008.

Since then, police say over 2,000 tickets have been issued each year for breaking the law in HRM, with fines starting at \$169.

ANDREW DAVIES/FOR METRO

Ill and injured veterans to get more cash

Troops. Defence Minister Peter MacKay says announcement will bring consistency to process

**JON
TATTIE**
halifax@metronews.ca

Injured Canadian Forces personnel will receive more money and access to rehabilitation training, Defence Minister Peter MacKay announced on Tuesday in Halifax.

The Department of National Defence's long-term disability program is getting another \$113 million in funding, which will mean ill or injured veterans will get a minimum, pre-tax income of \$40,000 a year. The boost is retroactive to Oct. 3.

"We share this responsibility to support our ill and injured personnel who retire or who are medically released," MacKay said during a press conference at CFB Halifax.

It matches the levels of the Veterans Affairs Canada

program. Some injured veterans will receive benefits up to the age of 65, while others will get them on a short-term basis before shifting to the earning-loss benefits plan if they opt to leave the forces.

"Today's announcement will ensure that the benefit paid out to our ill and injured veterans are consistent, regardless of which program they fall under," MacKay said.

It also means all ill and injured veterans will be able to use vocational rehabilitation training to start new careers after their service. He said the changes would let veterans focus on their recovery, not their financial situation.

The changes increase the minimum gross monthly benefit to 75 per cent of the basic salary rate of a corporal.

"We continue to enhance our greatest citizens, our men and women in uniform," MacKay said.

Health and welfare

Rear Admiral Andy Smith, chief of military personnel, said Tuesday's announcement would improve the health and welfare of ill and injured military members.



Defence Minister Peter MacKay speaks at a news conference at CFB Halifax on Tuesday. MacKay announced increased benefits for sick and injured members of the Canadian Forces. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Jets to get a closer look

Peter MacKay is promising increased scrutiny of Canada's plan to buy F-35 fighter jets.

"There will be much increased oversight, and much increased dialogue and disclosure as we go forward," the defence minister said in Halifax Tuesday.

He said Canada was not discussing buying aircraft with any other manufacturer,

but noted, "We're looking at all the options."

MacKay has been under fire after auditor general Michael Ferguson revealed the cost of the jets would be closer to \$25 billion, rather than the \$15-billion figure promoted by the Harper

government.

MacKay said the different figures reflect different ways of counting.

"It's what you pay our current pilots, the gas that you put in the current fleet of CF-18s," he said.

JON TATTIE/FOR METRO

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Canadian submarine set to return to sea after refit

Overdue trials.

HMCS Windsor could be in Halifax waters sometime on Wednesday

One of Canada's four troubled submarines is scheduled to return to the water this week for the first time since 2007 to begin sea trials after undergoing a refit that was supposed to be finished more than three years ago.

Defence Minister Peter MacKay says the Defence Department hopes to have HMCS Windsor in the water on Wednesday in Halifax.

At a news conference in Halifax on Tuesday, MacKay said Windsor is the second submarine to begin sea trials this year after an extensive refit program.

Initially scheduled to be completed by 2009, Windsor's refit has taken almost five years. The submarine



HMCS Windsor sails past the Halifax skyline in this file photo from 2005. THE DAILY NEWS FILE

has been at sea for 332 days since arriving in Nova Scotia in October 2001.

HMCS Victoria, based on the West Coast, was the first submarine to complete the refit and successfully test-fired torpedoes last month.

MacKay said the Royal Canadian Navy is also expanding the number of submarines it has to 330 from 278 in the coming months.

New training courses and personnel are meant to synchronize with the avail-

ability of the submarines, MacKay said, with three of the boats scheduled to be in the water by 2013.

"With three in the water in 2013, we should be able to meet our operational requirements," he said.

Windsor is one of four British submarines bought by the federal government in 1998 for \$750 million. The fleet has seen little time in active service since they were purchased.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rough seas

Accidents led to more delays

In addition to the planned refit, the submarines have been involved in accidents that have further delayed their operational use.

During its voyage to Canada in 2004, HMCS Chicoutimi caught fire after seawater damaged the electrical system, killing one sailor and leaving the submarine inoperable.

HMCS Victoria recently completed a three-year refit, including repairs to dents in the hull that prevented the ship from doing deep-sea dives. HMCS Corner Brook struck the ocean floor off Vancouver Island during a training exercise in June of last year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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DRIVING HIGHER STANDARDS

Taking a Hollywood hit to the Neptune Theatre stage

Season closer.

La Cage aux Folles brings to stage the popular movie *The Birdcage*; looks to draw big crowds and even bigger laughs

DREW CASFORD
halifax@metronews.ca

Neptune Theatre is putting a musical spin on a Hollywood production for their season-ending show.

La Cage aux Folles is the musical version of the 1996 film *The Birdcage* starring Robin Williams and Nathan Lane — which was itself a remake of a 1978 film called *La Cage aux Folles*.

With glitter, sequins and feathers, *La Cage aux Folles* tells the story of a gay cabaret owner and his drag-queen partner who decide to put up a straight front when they meet their son's fiancée's highly conservative parents.

"Our audiences know that this is not a film," said play

Premieres Friday

La Cage aux Folles is premiering Friday on Neptune Theatre's Fountain Hall stage and will run through to May 27.

- Tickets are available through neptunetheatre.com or the theatre box office.

director George Pothitos. "Sometimes when people know the movie well they will appreciate the differences or how we interpret and reimagine things for the stage. I think everybody wins."

Ian Simpson, playing the character of George, said his take, as well as the other actors, will be something of their own.

"I'm playing the role Robin Williams played and I'm trying very hard not to copy his performance," he said following Tuesday's media launch at Neptune Theatre. "I saw the movie many years ago and decided not to watch

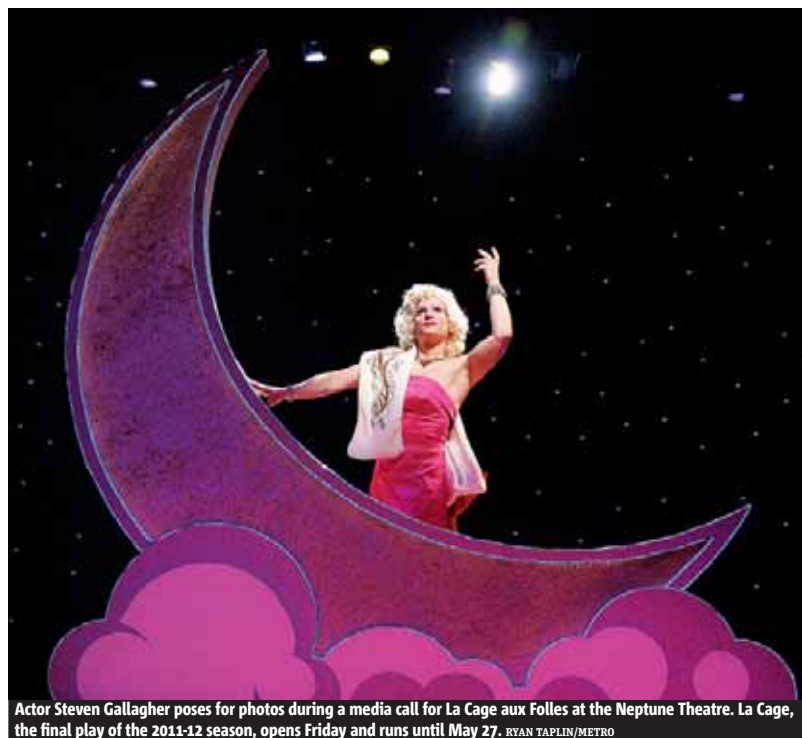
it when I came here because I didn't want to be influenced by him."

He admitted he finds it daunting that people will make comparisons to the film, but said he hopes everyone will come to the show with an open mind and be delighted with what they see.

"We have to be on our game every time," said Simpson, who is making his Neptune Theatre debut, and previously spent seven years on the American national tour of the hit musical *Mamma Mia!* "Every night when we come out there may be someone in the audience who has never seen the show. We owe it to them to bring it."

With this production closing the curtain on the 2011-12 season, Pothitos said the play is something everyone at Neptune finds very important.

"It's always something we build up to, the big musical at the end," said Pothitos, who is also Neptune's artistic director. "People wait for it in anticipation. It's kind of a cool thing to celebrate the year-end."



Actor Steven Gallagher poses for photos during a media call for *La Cage aux Folles* at the Neptune Theatre. *La Cage*, the final play of the 2011-12 season, opens Friday and runs until May 27. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

It ain't so easy getting glam in La Cage aux Folles



Cast members rehearse a scene during a media call for *La Cage aux Folles* at the Neptune Theatre on Tuesday. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

All the wigs, gowns and high-heels should bring a healthy dose of comedy and glamour to the production of *La Cage aux Folles*.

Play co-star Steven Gallagher admits a lot of work is involved prior to taking the stage with the amount of costume changes.

"It's really fast. I have 14 costume changes, some of them within less than a minute," said Gallagher, who plays the role of Albin. "It's amazing, though; the costume designer Crystal Mac-

Donell has been spectacular and accommodating in terms that I am not a woman."

He said the costumes and wigs help to put the final touches on the characters the cast has created.

"They finish the product. First I put the makeup on, on stage in front of the audience," he said.

"Then later I come out in the wig and down. It sort of finishes off in the audience and it's fully in that world of a drag queen."

Gallagher said during the

Gender-bending

"My partner has to be in drag for 90 per cent of the show."

Ian Simpson on co-star Steven Gallagher

show he changes himself on stage from a man to a woman, which isn't typically done during performances.

"I feel like a beauty queen. For me, the costume

and wearing heels changes my body language with my husband in the show. It's very different from when I have heels on from when I don't."

His co-star, Ian Simpson, admits he got off easy this time, as his character does not dress in drag.

"My partner has to come in early to get ready because there's just so much (to do)," said Simpson, who plays George. "I don't have to do any of that."

DREW CASFORD/FOR METRO

Missing since last week

Police postpone search for fisherman a third time

Halifax police have again postponed the search for a missing 33-year-old fisherman.

Police began the search for Brent Walton of Eastern Passage on Friday after receiving a report that his boat capsized in Level Spot Lake in the Upper Lakeville area.

The search was postponed Sunday, Monday and

Boat capsized

- Police say Walton was with another fisherman when their boat began experience mechanical difficulty. The boat capsized and the other man swam to shore to get help.

again Tuesday and is now expected to resume Thursday morning.

"The high winds have reduced visibility in the area and in the lake," said RCMP Sgt. Brigdit Leger.

DREW CASFORD/FOR METRO

Single-vehicle collision

Crash victim in Hants County ID'd

Police have identified the 20-year-old man who died in a single-vehicle collision on Sunday in Hants County.

The RCMP say Lucas Oulton was driving towards Enfield on Horne Settlement Road when he lost control of his car and hit a walled culvert.

He died while being taken to hospital and was the only occupant in the vehicle.

ANDREW DAVIES/FOR METRO

Outdoor concert

Weir Rockin' lineup announced

The Weir Rockin' outdoor concert event will be back this summer with another rockin' lineup in Upper Sackville.

Concert officials have announced the August 18 show will feature Kim Mitchell, Prism and Platinum Blonde.

Tickets are expected to go on sale June 1 through Ticket Atlantic. A release didn't have details on ticket prices. METRO



Musician Kim Mitchell. CONTRIBUTED

Meeting set for Thursday

Paper mill union to explain offer

The union representing employees at an idled Cape Breton paper mill will hold a meeting to get feedback from members on an offer being made by a potential buyer. Archie MacLaughlin, first vice-president with Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Local 972, says 16 days of negotiations between the union and Pacific West Commercial Corp. have taken place. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Library layoffs a shaming exercise: Premier

Chignecto-Central jobs at stake. \$13.4M cut to province's eight school boards follows \$17.6M reduction in funding last year

Premier Darrell Dexter has accused a school board of trying to embarrass his government after the board announced it is laying off all its school librarians in response to budget cuts.

Dexter was responding to questions in the legislature on Tuesday about the effects of a 1.3 per cent cut to school boards in the spring budget.

The Chignecto-Central

Something's got to give: Board

- Trudy Thompson, chairwoman of the Chignecto-Central board, said she was surprised by Dexter's comments given the board worked hard last year to keep cuts out of the classroom by reducing administration by nearly 20 per cent.

- Thompson said the board

is facing a 1.7 per cent cut to its funding this year and made the decision to lay off librarians after cutting transportation, supplies and maintenance.

- "Last year we were able to minimize the impact to the classroom, but this year we do not have that ability," she said.

Regional School Board said last week that it would eliminate 41 librarian positions as part of 130 job cuts this fiscal year as it grapples with a \$6.5-million shortfall.

Dexter said funding is in place for library services at the school board, adding the elimination of the jobs is as unacceptable to the government as it is to students and parents.

"This is simply a game being played by that school board," he told the legislature.

"We are going to make sure that the kids who rely on the services, whether they are librarians or other services ... in that board are going to get the services they need."

Dexter later said the librarian cuts wouldn't stand, but he wouldn't say what the government would do until the board finalizes its decision.

"We're not going to make any decision about that until they make their decisions," he said. "I am distressed to see the board ... making decisions that in my opinion are simply designed to try to embarrass the government."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Cutting school librarian positions is unacceptable, says Premier Darrell Dexter, shown at Province House last year. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE

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Titanic's 'unknown child' was a mystery



Bill Arbuckle, a senior parks official and former graveyard worker for HRM, visits the grave of the unknown child from the Titanic disaster at the Fairview Lawn Cemetery last week. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Unidentified. It would be 90 years before the boy was finally given a name

Little Sidney Leslie Goodwin was laid to rest in Halifax's Fairview Lawn Cemetery nearly a century before anyone knew who he was.

The toddler's body was plucked from the North Atlantic by crew members aboard

the Mackay-Bennett, one of two cable ships tasked with recovering Titanic's dead after the ship sank on April 15, 1912.

"When they brought in this small child, tiny child, with no life-jacket, they were very much moved," says Alan Ruffman, a Halifax author and researcher who ultimately helped find the child's identity.

"They resolved among themselves that if no one claimed this body, they would see that it got a decent burial."

Reaction

"When they brought in this small child, tiny child, with no life-jacket, they were very much moved."

Alan Ruffman, author and researcher

Days later, the boy's remains were buried at the end of a row of Titanic victims, beneath a

grey tombstone dedicated to an "unknown child."

In 2002, DNA technology and dental analysis concluded the exhumed remains were those of a 13-month-old Finnish boy named Eino Viljami Panula.

Two years later, an Ontario family donated a pair of mottled brown shoes to a Halifax museum, claiming they belonged to the boy. But the shoes were too large.

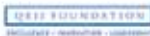
THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Atlantic Mayor's Congress. There's a lot more than shipbuilding on the agenda



Bernard Valcourt RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Shipbuilding will be the hot topic when about 30 Atlantic mayors arrive in Halifax this week.

ACOA Minister Bernard Valcourt will speak at the semi-annual Atlantic Mayor's Congress on Wednesday at 6 p.m.

He'll be talking about the Atlantic Shipbuilding Action Plan and the opportunities and impact on the region's municipalities.

But it's not all rosy — especially when it comes to municipal and federal relations.

Berry Vrbancic, president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, will speak to the mayors about policing costs and how the federal budget impacts municipalities.

There was very little regarding municipalities in the 2012 budget delivered two

Time and place

The mayors congress will run through Friday at the World Trade and Convention Centre.

weeks ago.

Another heavy topic weighing on the minds of mayors are the costs of meeting to new standards for wastewater regulations.

The federal government has not offered any funding support for municipalities to update millions and millions worth of sewer infrastructure. JENNIFER TAPLIN/METRO



For more local news visit metronews.ca/halifax

Merger. YWCA and SHYM come together for women

YWCA Halifax and the Society for Supportive Housing for Young Mothers membership will merge, it was announced on Tuesday.

In a release, it states that the YWCA will be the new operator of the SHYM program.

YWCA Halifax offers housing solutions to women and single mothers.

SHYM is located in Dart-

mouth and provides affordable housing to young single mothers who are at risk of becoming homeless.

Tanis Crosby, executive director of YWCA Halifax, said the merger will help the YWCA's mission.

"This coming together ... strengthens our reach, impact and clarity," she said in a statement.

ANDREW DAVIES/FOR METRO



Breivik's legal defence team: They argue he is not competent to stand trial. HEIKO JUNG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Norway shooter is sane: Report

New assessment.

Accused of killing 77, Breivik saw himself as crusader against Islam

When Anders Behring Breivik goes on trial next week, both the prosecution and the defence will say he killed 77 people in a bomb and shooting massacre that jolted the world's image of terrorism.

The only question now is whether the self-styled anti-Muslim militant was sane when he did it — and after a new psychiatric assessment Tuesday, even that may no longer be in dispute.

"Our conclusion is that he (was) not psychotic at the time of the actions of terrorism and he is not psychotic now," Terje Toerriksen, one of the psychiatrists who examined Breivik in prison, told The Associated Press.



Anders Behring Breivik
HEIKO JUNG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The twin attacks on July 22 — a bomb in Oslo's government district followed by a shooting spree at the governing Labor Party's youth camp outside the capital — brutally shocked Norway and reminded the West of terror threats other than al-Qaida.

The blond, blue-eyed gunman surrendered to police

on a lakeside island where the bodies of his many teenage victims lay scattered. He claimed he was the Islamic terror group's antithesis, a modern-day crusader waging a war against Islam in Europe.

Breivik confessed to the attacks but rejected criminal guilt, saying he had acted to protect Norway from being overrun by Muslims by targeting the left-leaning political establishment he claimed had betrayed the country with liberal immigration policies.

The psychiatric report presented to the Oslo district court on Tuesday backed up Breivik's own claim that he is sane, and contradicted an earlier assessment that declared him psychotic and suffering from paranoid schizophrenia. That first diagnosis was met with widespread criticism, prompting the court to order the second review.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Santorum ends bid for GOP nomination

Drops out. Departure from presidential race leaves Romney as likely nominee



Rick Santorum
GENE J. PUSKAS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rick Santorum, the staunch social conservative who climbed from the basement of the polls to give Republican front-runner Mitt Romney a run for his money in the party's unpredictable presidential race, has ended his campaign.

"While this presidential race is over for me, and we will suspend our campaign effective today, we are not done fighting," Santorum said in Gettysburg, Pa.

"We are going to continue to fight for the Americans

who stood up and gave us that air under our wings."

Santorum, who was fa-

cing a tough battle against Romney in his home state of Pennsylvania in the Republican primary on April 24, launched a tenacious campaign against the Mormon millionaire to become his No. 1 threat in the race.

The former Pennsylvania senator's departure from the race all but assures Romney will get the nomination. Santorum was the only candidate who stood a chance of preventing Romney from amassing the 1,144 delegates needed to seal the nomination before the Republican convention in August.

Romney praised Santorum in a statement, calling him an "able and worthy competitor" and an "important voice" in the party.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Obama: Let millionaires pay higher taxes

U.S. President Barack Obama made a populist pitch in Boca Raton, Fla., on Tuesday that's resonating with many Americans: Millionaires, he said, should pay taxes at the same rate as the middle class. The president is pushing for the so-called Buffett rule, named after billionaire investor Warren Buffett, an Obama supporter who has called for tax hikes on the wealthy after famously observing last year that his secretary pays tax at a higher rate than he does. CAROLYN KASTER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Praise from police

Kids keep their cool when bus driver passes out

A dozen students in a northwestern U.S. town knew what to do when their bus driver slumped over the wheel unconscious.

Surveillance video shows 13-year-old Jeremy Wuitsch-

ick rushing down the aisle and grabbing the wheel on Monday morning.

Wuitschick had noticed the driver was shaking and his arms flailing just as the bus started to pull into Surprise Lake Middle School in Milton, about 48 kilometres south of Seattle.

Students can be heard yelling, "Oh my God!" and "Call 911! Call 911!" — on the video. Others cried, "Take the keys out of the ignition!"

Wuitschick heeded the calls, removing the keys and turning the steering wheel to pull the bus over. The bus slowly came to a stop against the curb.

Wuitschick and another student, Johnny Wood, who was trained in first aid, started chest compressions on the driver until adults arrived. The driver was hospitalized in "grave condition" Monday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kindergarten

Stepdad busted by show-and-tell

The stepfather of a five-year-old Bridgeport, Conn., boy who brought 50 packets of heroin to show-and-tell was arrested after going to the school in search of the drugs, police said Tuesday.

The student went to kindergarten Monday with his stepfather's jacket and pulled out the drugs in 10 small plastic bags when it came time for his presentation. The principal called police, and Santos Roman, 35, was arrested after arriving at the school.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cocky bird

Ironic rooster fears nothing

Nobody seems to know where he came from, but a local newspaper in Collierville, Tenn., reports a red rooster first showed up about three months ago and has been a daily visitor ever since at Gus' Fried Chicken in Collierville.

He's been known to cross a busy street, but most often crows from a fenced field across the street from the restaurant.

Collierville Animal Services has been trying to catch him.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

China

Arrest for illegal ultrasounds

Police in China have arrested a woman for performing ultrasound tests in the back seats of cars and illegally telling mothers the gender of their fetus, state media said Tuesday.

It is forbidden in China to tell expectant parents what sex their child will be because the practice has encouraged parents with a traditional preference for sons to abort female fetuses, skewing the ratio of boys to girls.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Alleged stalker

Quebecer begged actor to marry her, police say

A Canadian actress accused of stalking Alec Baldwin sent him a string of emails begging him to marry her, police say.

Genevieve Sabourin was arraigned on aggravated harassment and stalking charges after her arrest in New York City.

Police said Baldwin and Sabourin met a decade ago on a movie set.

Sabourin travelled from her home in Quebec to New York City, then began sending Baldwin desperate emails, police said.

Baldwin posted a Twitter message about the episode Tuesday, writing, "Isn't it odd when an accused stalker is in handcuffs, being taken away by the cops, yet smiles for the cameras?" **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Woman kidnapped

Man seeks to appeal his conviction

A New Brunswick man found guilty of abducting a woman and sexually assaulting her

for almost a month argued Tuesday that his conviction and sentence should be overturned.

Romeo Cormier, 64, told the provincial Court of Appeal in Fredericton he was not properly represented by his lawyers and the trial judge made errors.

Cormier was sentenced to 18 years in jail last August for abduction and sexual assault.

The woman testified Cormier grabbed her at knife-point outside a Moncton, N.B., shopping mall.

She was able to escape when Cormier left to go to a food bank.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Boeing 777

Korean jet lands at a B.C. Canadian Forces base due to in-flight emergency

A Korean Airlines Boeing 777 has been diverted to a Canadian Forces base on the east coast of Vancouver Island because of an in-flight emergency.

Canadian Forces say the jet was travelling from Vancouver International Airport and was diverted around 5:30 p.m. Base emergency services were activated. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Mulcair gets a TV makeover: He cares ... just like Jack

The family man.

Olivia Chow and the NDP launch a new ad that rejects any lurch to centre and stresses party continuity

Newly minted NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair is being introduced to Canadians as someone who will fight for ordinary families.

Just like his predecessor Jack Layton did.

The emphasis is on continuity, not change, in a new English television ad being launched by the federal NDP.

It features Layton's widow, NDP MP Olivia Chow, assuring viewers, "Jack's vision is in good hands."

During the seven-month leadership contest to choose Layton's successor, Mulcair



New NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair: Family man. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

was portrayed by his rivals as someone who would lurch as someone who would lurch the social democratic party to the centre of the political spectrum, turning it into an imitation of the Liberal party.

Yet the English ad features a series of, well, ordinary Canadians expressing confidence that Mulcair will champion issues closest to their hearts.

"He'll fight for my family," says a young mother, packing groceries into her car.

"He cares if I make ends meet," a tool-toting tradesman tells the TV viewers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Miss Universe

Pageant opens up to transgender women

Transgender women will be allowed to participate in the Miss Universe beauty pageant next year, officials announced Tuesday. They have already ruled Vancouver's Jenna Talackova, 23, can vie for the crown this year.

She had a sex change four years ago after being born a male.

Now pageant officials say they are working on the language of the official rule policy change.

Initially, organizers in Canada disqualified Talackova from the 61st Miss Universe Canada pageant set for May, citing a rule that she must be "naturally born" a woman.

Talackova told ABC's Good Morning America she has a boyfriend and hopes to have children some day. She said, without elaborating, "Yes, I want to have two children." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

GT model shown

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Syria launches fresh attacks

Uprising. Regime defies UN ceasefire plan — begins new raids on rebel areas

Syrian troops defied a UN-brokered ceasefire plan Tuesday, launching fresh attacks on rebellious areas.

But special envoy Kofi Annan said there was still time to salvage a truce that he described as the only chance for peace.

More than a year into the Syrian uprising, the international community has nearly run out of options for halting the slide toward civil war. On Tuesday, Annan insisted his peace initiative remains "very much alive" — in part because there is no viable alternative.

The UN has ruled out any military intervention.

Several rounds of sanctions and other attempts to isolate President Bashar Assad have done little.



Syrian refugees are seen at a camp in Reyhanli, Turkey.
GERMANO ASSAD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Facing a deadline to pull back its troops, Syria said it was withdrawing from certain areas, including the rebellious province of Homs. Residents of Homs reported the heaviest shelling in months.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

No sign of troop pullback

France calls claims of troop withdrawal by Syria a "flagrant ... lie."

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Court. Edwards' trial expected to set precedent for campaign donations

John Edwards, former U.S. senator and two-time Democratic presidential candidate, is making the biggest courtroom gamble of his life — that a jury will clear him of alleged campaign finance violations and keep him from being sent to prison.

Jury selection for Edwards' criminal trial is set to begin Thursday in the Middle District of North Carolina.

U.S. District Court Judge Catherine C. Eagles, who was appointed in 2010 by President Barack Obama, will preside. She said she expects the proceedings to last about six weeks.

Edwards, who declined an interview request through his lawyers, was indicted by a federal grand jury last year on six felony and misdemeanour counts related to nearly \$1 million secretly provided by wealthy campaign donors to help hide his pregnant mistress, Rielle Hunter, as he sought the White House in 2008.

If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of 30 years in prison and as much as \$1.5



Former presidential candidate John Edwards in July 2011.

GERRY BROOME/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

million in fines.

"What I know with complete and absolute certainty is I didn't violate campaign laws and I never for a second believed I was violating campaign laws," Edwards said in October.

Regardless of the outcome, the coming trial in USA v. Johnny Reid Edwards is sure to set legal precedents for what constitutes a campaign donation under federal law. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Lawyers withdraw counsel after teen's shooter disappears

Website authenticity.

George Zimmerman created website to solicit money for legal fees, living expenses, his lawyers confirmed

Attorneys for the U.S. neighbourhood-watch volunteer who fatally shot an unarmed black teen said Tuesday they have withdrawn as counsel because they have lost contact with him.

Attorney Craig Sonner and Hal Uhrig told a news conference they haven't heard from George Zimmerman since Sunday. They said that against their advice, Zimmerman contacted the special prosecutor who will decide if he should face charges.

Uhrig said his legal team



This is an image from the website therealgeorgezimmerman.com. George Zimmerman's former attorney confirmed the authenticity of the website, which allows supporters to raise money for Zimmerman. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

is concerned about Zimmerman, who he said is "not doing well emotionally" and may be suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.

Earlier Tuesday, Sonner confirmed the authenticity of a new website that allows supporters to raise money for living expenses and lawyers for the 28-year-old man who has admitted to fatally shooting Trayvon Martin.

All the money raised from the site, therealgeorgezimmerman.com, will go to Zimmerman, said Sonner.

Zimmerman says he shot 17-year-old Martin in self-defence after following the teenager in a Florida gated community.

He said he was returning to his truck when the teen attacked him.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Busted

U.S. bride accused of faking cancer for money

Authorities say a former New York woman pretended to have terminal cancer so she could have a lavish wedding reception and honeymoon.

The Times Herald-Record reports an Orange County Grand jury has indicted 25-year-old Jessica Vega with grand larceny and scheme to defraud.

According to the indictment, Vega accepted thousands of dollars in donated services and goods after claiming in 2010 that she was dying of leukemia.

She married Michael O'Connell in May 2010 and the couple spent their honeymoon in Aruba.

Four months later, O'Connell told the newspaper that Vega was faking the illness. The couple divorced over the incident, and O'Connell moved to Virginia. Vega later joined him. They have two children.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Journalists allegedly involved with shady private detective



Chairman of News Corp. Rupert Murdoch, left, and former chief executive of News International Rebekah Brooks. **SANG TAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE**

The names of three dozen British journalists allegedly involved with a shady private investigator were leaked Tuesday to the Internet, posing another potential embarrassment for the U.K.'s scandal-tarred media.

Paul Staines, who blogs under the name Guido Fawkes, published what he said were more than 1,000 recorded transactions between staffers at Rupert Murdoch's British papers and freelance

detective Steve Whittamore, who was convicted of trading in illegally obtained information.

In a blog post, Staines said he wanted to expose the "industrial-scale criminality" perpetrated by Britain's press, accusing newspaper companies of refusing to name names because they "do not wish to report their own crimes."

Whittamore worked with hundreds of reporters, bending or breaking the law to

keep his clients supplied with unlisted numbers, vehicle registration records and other confidential information. Whittamore was convicted in 2005, but did not go to prison and none of the journalists who were named in his files were ever punished.

Interest in Whittamore and his associates has been revived by Britain's phone hacking scandal, which erupted last year after it emerged that Murdoch's News of the World

tabloid routinely hacked into the phones of celebrities and others in the news and bribed officials to win scoops.

The hacking scandal has rocked Britain's establishment, leading to a slew of arrests, lawsuits, settlements and high-profile resignations. Murdoch has since closed News of the World and a judge-led inquiry could yet propose sweeping changes to the way Britain's press is regulated.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Feeding your taste for space



An astronaut enjoys green tea and almonds — before he is subjected to spirulina and stinky cheese. CONTRIBUTED

What's on the menu in the cosmic diner?

Algae slime and spicy, smelly foods ... but also some normal dishes, freeze-dried



ANTHONY JOHNSTON
Metro World News

When budding space tourists prepare to step aboard their commercial cosmic flight, what can they expect as their in-flight meal?

"Plenty of pungent, spicy and piquant food," says food scientist Robin Fegen, who specializes in preparing space cuisine for food enthusiasts.



Out-of-this-world flavours

"We recommend serving a very strong cheese that has a powerful taste, as in space you lose your normal sense of smell.... Other favourites include anything doused with chili and garlic."

Robin Fegen, the Robin Collective

Fegen, 26, is the director of the Robin Collective, a London-based group of entrepreneurs that hosts experimental food banquets for trend-hungry yuppies.

After collaborating with an astronaut and a space-nutrition expert at a recent science fair, some of Fegen's dishes have been "certified" as potential food for cosmic travel, he says.

"Each food tries to overcome eating problems that can crop up in space," says Fegen.

"For example, we recommend serving a very strong cheese that has a powerful taste, as in space you lose your normal sense of smell."

Eighty-five to 90 per cent of taste is controlled by your olfactory organs and at zero-gravity molecules in the air

don't spread out in the same way.

"Other favourites include anything doused with chili and garlic."

As refrigerators use a lot of electrical power, they are a no-no in space. Instead, food is irradiated, dehydrated or freeze-dried for preservation.

"The good thing is that most dishes on Earth can be prepared into 'flight-ready'

meals," NASA food scientist Michele Perchonok tells Metro.

"Unfortunately, having pizza in space is impossible, as each component — wheat, sauce and cheese — requires at least partial gravity to prepare."

So, in space, while you sacrifice some foods, you can try new ones.

Spirulina, a green algae that is rich in protein and B vitamins, is touted as a future space crop by the European Space Agency's project MEL-iSSA, which researches growing food in potential lunar bases on Mars.

But as Fegen describes, "It's what I call an algal slime that tastes like a dirty fish tank."

Not over the moon for stinky cheese

I paid Robin Fegen a visit to try out his homemade space food.

First on the sampling menu is spirulina, that brownish-greenish algae that's packed with protein and B vitamins.

I got around that nasty "dirty, fish-tank" taste by eating it in a thick goo of chocolate.

The cocoa was overwhelming, while the spiru-

lina gave a bit of a tingle on the tongue.

With gusto, I tried the algae on its own — more tingling, but this messy powder-like algae leaves a stench only a fisherman can love.

Next on the menu was chili "caviar."

No doubt inspired by the Russian space-trekking aristocracy, this dish has all the texture and complexion of

real caviar — only it's made out of some brown algae and is hot 'n' spicy.

Just like caviar, expect that surprise bursting-bubble sensation on your tongue, and then a powerful pow of pepper striking your taste buds. I would still prefer to sneak on some ketchup.

Curiously, I noted that U.S. astronauts have the hots for chili, while Russian

cosmonauts prefer lashings of garlic.

The stronger the flavour, the more likely you'll taste it, say space foodies.

Well, I can't say I agree with that extra-strong Stilton cheese.

If you like eating unwashed socks, tuck in. I'll stick to the spirulina, thank you.

**ANTHONY JOHNSTON/
METRO WORLD NEWS**

Q&A



Michele Perchonok

ANTHONY JOHNSTON/METRO WORLD NEWS

They don't just eat from tubes

A Q&A with NASA food-scientist Michele Perchonok.

When you're up in space, are you stuck with the same food all the time?

Not at all. Right now we prepare over 180 food types; we can feed a crew with three meals a day for eight to 10 days without repeating the same meal twice.

So what type of food do NASA's astronauts eat?

Basically any food can be eaten up there, but they need to be processed so that they're not easily spoiled and can be eaten at zero-gravity. Contrary to what people may think, astronauts don't really eat puréed, condensed foods straight from a tube. The Apollo crew did, but they were only in flight for a few days. When you're up in space on longer missions, you have to have more acceptable meals. There is also a lot of psychology involved in eating there — many astronauts seek "comfort food" like macaroni and cheese that they might not normally eat on Earth.

You pick the foods astronauts get to eat. Do they have a say in it?

In fact, they do — after each mission, a crew member is debriefed and they can suggest what new foods they can eat. After enough requests from crew members, we added vegetarian chili and Caribbean jerk chicken to our menu.

**ANTHONY JOHNSTON/
METRO WORLD NEWS**

In Metro Thursday

- We reveal the Canadian finalist for our Metro Race for Space contest.

More at metronews.ca

- "Life-changing": Businessman Gregory Olsen dishes on being a space tourist.
- **Science fiction:** Scientists delve into the plausible and implausible of space movies.



Anthony Johnston takes a taste.
ANTHONY JOHNSTON/METRO WORLD NEWS



Axe falls on programs as CBC begins to make cuts

Media. World-affairs radio program Dispatches and CBC News Network's Connect with Mark Kelley cancelled

Big budget cuts at the CBC are putting "everything" on the chopping block — including hit shows Republic of Doyle and Heartland, programming boss Kirstine Stewart said Tuesday, as the public broadcaster axed CBC News Network's Connect with Mark Kelley and CBC Radio's Dispatches.

Tough decisions about how to manage a \$225-million shortfall will include shaving six existing or planned shows from the public broadcaster's TV lineup, said Stewart, executive vice-president of CBC's English Services.

"We are making those decisions next week and we've got some pretty strong criteria to

make those decisions," Stewart said after CBC staff were briefed on job and program cuts in an internal meeting.

"But in the end, what we're trying to do is protect the programming that Canadians seem to be most interested in and it will really narrow down the variety of programming that we've been able to give Canadians over the last few years."

Staff learned Tuesday that CBC TV's programming and news departments will bear the brunt of punishing cuts planned over the next three years. They include shuttered news bureaus in Africa and South America as well the elimination of 88 news jobs.

"It's not a good day for CBC," said Marc-Philippe Laurin, president of the Canadian Media Guild's CBC branch. "Canadians are really going to see a difference on the TV screen and hear a difference on CBC Radio."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Consumer credit

Canadians yet to act on debt despite intentions: Reports

More Canadians acknowledge they may be reaching the upper limits on borrowing but they have yet to act on it, two new reports suggest.

A survey released Tuesday by accounting firm PwC found that 63 per cent of respondents said they wanted to decrease their debt levels over the next year — up 4.5

per cent from a year earlier — and many indicated they were ready to cut back on discretionary spending.

But in a separate report based on actual spending patterns, Moneris Solutions found that consumers had yet to act on their intentions.

The fresh data showed that consumer-credit and debit-card spending in Canada continued to grow. For the first three months of 2012, spending was up 5.34 per cent and it appeared to be climbing, with spending in March up 6.76 per cent.

The data did not include


financing for homes, however, the largest part of household debt.


The seemingly contradictory findings suggest Canadians have made the intellectual leap on spending, but have yet to feel the pinch of debt payments in their pocketbooks.


That is borne out by another finding in the PwC survey — Canadians may say they want to cut back, but two-thirds of respondents also said they were comfortable with their current debt level and fairly secure in their jobs.


THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

 **DOLLAR**
99.59¢ US (-0.76¢)

 **TSX**
11,935.29 (-83.21)

 **OIL**
\$101.02 US (-\$1.44)

 **GOLD**
\$1,660.70 US (+\$16.80)

Natural gas: \$2.10 US (-0.7¢)
Dow Jones: 12,715.93 (-213.66)

A MESSAGE from CAPITAL HEALTH

To the citizens and taxpayers we serve...

Capital Health has begun preparing for a possible strike that would affect hospitals, clinics and other health care centres in Halifax Regional Municipality and West Hants. Services across Nova Scotia and to patients from other Atlantic provinces would also be impacted.

Regrettably, Capital Health has been unable to reach a collective agreement with NSGEU Local 42. Capital Health cannot agree to the union's wage-related demands, which would add \$26.5 million a year to costs by the end of a three-year contract. That amount applied across the province's health care system could mean as much as an added \$137.5 million in taxpayers' dollars annually.

As a result, a strike by members of NSGEU Local 42 could begin as soon as Wednesday, April 25.

Capital Health respects the right of our unionized employees to take this action. Our responsibility now is to plan for a significant disruption in the services we provide. Our commitment, as always, is to deliver the safest care we can under given conditions.

Here's what you need to know:

- Local 42 is made up of many of the professionals who provide direct care and others whose roles support care. The group totals about 3,700 employees in more than 250 roles. To see a list of those roles, visit www.cdha.nshealth.ca.
- Registered nurses (NSGEU Local 97 and NSNU) and doctors are not part of this group.
- **In the event of a strike:**
 - An "emergency services" agreement with the union means that care will focus only on situations where life is in danger.
 - Surgeries will be limited to emergency cases; others will be postponed.
 - Diagnostic imaging (MRI, ultrasound, PET/CT, X-ray) will be limited to emergency cases; others will be postponed.
 - Care will continue for patients already on dialysis, chemotherapy and radiation therapy; most other outpatient clinics will close.
 - Blood collection will be available only for individuals requiring immediate testing.

For up-to-date information, visit www.cdha.nshealth.ca or call 473-2700 in Halifax (1-855-473-2700 toll-free).



Capital Health

A different today. A better tomorrow.



A byte worth \$600 billion

Apple CEO Tim Cook announces the new iPad in San Francisco last month. Apple, already the world's most valuable company, hit the \$600-billion level for the first time Tuesday.

PAUL SAKUMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

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GOOD DAY SON SHINE



JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca/justsaying

Very Bad Idea Department: James McCartney, son of Paul the Beatle, was caught musing out loud the other day about forming a band composed exclusively of the sons of former Beatles: himself, Sean Lennon (John), Dhani Harrison (George) and Zak Starkey (Ringo).

James, cruelly described by the Telegraph as a "plumper, sadder, balder" version of his famous dad, told the BBC he fantasizes about being better than the Beatles. At 34, he better hurry. In fact, the whole (potential) act is in danger of geezering out before it gets started.

Sean Lennon is 36, Dhani Harrison is 33, and reluctant Beatle 2.0 Zak Starkey is 46. No wonder he's reluctant. At his age you like to be in bed by 10, which is not a rock-'n'-roll time zone. Zak is in danger of engendering Beatles 3.0: The Grand-Kids Are All Right.

There are a host of Beatle larvae waiting in the wings if these four don't want to play nice together, but they're equally venerable. Julian Lennon is 49 and plays in a band called AARP (just kidding) and Jason Starkey is a slightly more sprightly 44.

The interesting thing is that all these old guys are musicians. Less interesting, perhaps, is that, all together, their records have sold fewer copies than any of the other No. 1 hits generated by their Fab Fathers in their glory days.

Let's not forget, an album called 1, which is a compilation of all 27 of the Beatles' No. 1 hits, released in 2000, is still the biggest-selling album of the 21st century, with 31 million copies sold by the end of 2009. The Beatles are the only group to have the best-selling record in two decades: Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band dominated the '60s and 1 dominated the 2000s.

Into this epic tale wanders the warmed-over DNA of the next generation. So far, without much distinction. The most remarkable thing about their collective genius is a knack for weird band names, such as: thenewno2s, Ghost of a Sabre Tooth Tiger, Musty Jack Sponge and, my personal favourite, the Exploding Nudists. Nope. Never heard of any of them either.

One or two of the 2.0 Beatles have enjoyed individual success: Zak Starkey has been a drummer for the Who and Oasis, which can be viewed as the most successful Beatles tribute band to date. Sean and Julian Lennon had their moments, but none of those moments holds a candle to Imagine.

If the boys weren't British, this could be a Greek tragedy in which the sons are crushed by the mythic reputations of their fathers. But it's hard to feel sorry for the heirs of men who sold more than a billion records.

Even if they sing out of tune, they'll get by with a little help from their dads.



James McCartney.
JASON MERRITT/GETTY IMAGES



Sean Lennon. CRAIG BARRITT/GETTY IMAGES



Dhani Harrison.
ETHAN MILLER/GETTY IMAGES



Zak Starkey. KATY WINN/GETTY IMAGES

Guest hails from the Ice Age



KIN CHEUNG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

42,000 years old

Born in the Ice Age, returns with tell-all

The most well-preserved baby mammoth, named Lyuba, is displayed at a press preview in Hong Kong Tuesday.

The one-month-old baby mammoth of the Ice Age died 42,000 years ago and was preserved in the ice. Lyuba was found by a rein-

deer herder in the permafrost of the Yamal Peninsula, Siberia, in 2007.

According to the Daily Mail, she is thought to have died in a mudslide at a month old.

The mud basically "pickled" the mammoth.

"She was doing great, very healthy. She just had this terrible misfortune," palaeontologist Dan Fisher, of the University of Michigan, told the news agency.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Research

10,000

Siberia-based scientists say they are hopeful that studying the mammoth will help explain what caused mammals from the Ice Age to vanish about 10,000 years ago.

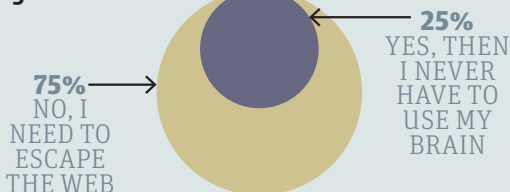
Meets her match

- She will be exhibited in Hong Kong from April 12 to May 10.
- According to MSNBC, another young mammoth, named Yuka, with strawberry-blond hair was revealed to the world last week.



Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Would you wear Google's new digital glasses?



Twitter

@sarahbouchard1:

Sun, sun, sun!! Stay this way Halifax-- it makes it a lot easier to train for the #Bluenose !!

@lisa_shanks:

Lovely sunshine today in Halifax. Too bad I will be stuck inside with my head in an account book. #ExamWeek

@Armaan_NPH:

A beautiful day in Halifax, but I'm spending it inside the library studying. #LifeOfAStudent

@DontBeShyHFX:

Street patios are being put out today in #Halifax! "Happiest time of the year! #summa #livingthepatiollife

@helloarlic:

With all due respect, what did #nsscad expect drowning in all this red ink? #Sustainability is key to survival. #halifax

@shhh_aron:

Apparently the Mooseheads are exciting this year. We'll see. #sixdollarhotdog #punintended

In Focus

Some classic Stooze-filled flicks



IN
FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

The Three Stooges — Larry Fine, Curly Howard and brother Moe Howard were the most famous incarnation — “nyuk! nyuk! nyuk!” their way through 220 slapstick movies in a career that spanned the heyday of vaudeville to the 1970s.

This weekend a new trio says “Hello! Hello! Hello!” in *The Three Stooges*, a Farrelly Brothers directed comedy. But if it’s classic Stoogisms you’re looking for, check out these movies:

The story of Hoi Polloi was so effective the trio recycled it twice more in the films *HalfWits Holiday* and *Pies and Guys*.

Disorder in the Court casts the boys as star witnesses at the murder trial of their friend, a nightclub dancer.

Curly’s favourite film was *A Plumbing We Will Go*, which featured the guys as plumbers hired to fix a leak in a mansion.



STEVE
GOW
scene@metronews.com

There’ll be a lot of eyes on the Farrelly Brothers’ *The Three Stooges*.

Not only has the Friday release been a long time in construction, but the Hall Pass filmmakers insist the movie’s a dedicated love letter to the slapstick legends. We caught up to Toronto-born actor Chris Diamantopoulos (TV’s 24) to discuss playing the Stooges senseless skipper, Moe Howard.



Chris Diamantopoulos, centre, leads the Stooges in the latest version of *The Three Stooges* franchise. HANDOUT

The lasting effect of physical comedy

The Three Stooges return to the big screen.

Chris Diamantopoulos speaks to Metro about his role and the return of slapstick films

More quotes

See what Chris Diamantopoulos had to say on a wide variety of subjects.

- **Dressing up for the audition.** “When I found out about the audition, there was a memo that said ‘do not arrive in character,’ this is a modern take on the Stooges,” said Diamantopoulos. “I thought that’s stupid, I can’t go in and be Moe looking like me.”
- **The potential comic**

superstars. “They never really got their just desserts,” said Diamantopoulos. “By today’s standards, especially if back when they were around there was social networking, The Stooges would’ve been mega-superstars.”

- **The Look of Moe.** “There’s this term — physiognomy — which basically means the way you’re face looks affects how you sound so I had to look that way.”

I know you were a fan but why did you love the Stooges?

It just comes from watching them at such an early age and knowing that my parents loved them. I started watching them when I was five or six years old ... there were about

50 or 60 shorts that I knew off by heart and when my parents would want entertainment, I would just recite the whole episodes for them in the summers in Greece (because) we didn’t have a TV.

Why do you think physical

comedy is so endearing?

There’s something universal and timeless when done right about somebody falling, slipping, randomly being hit or poked if it’s instigated the right way and if the poke or hit is warranted.

It’s just funny — no matter what language you speak and what era, again if it’s instigated the right way — it’s all about set up, pay off and timing.

The original Stooges are often considered guy’s comedy. How is this different?

You’re right in saying that men love the Stooges. Although it’s funny — going to screenings and talking to people who’ve seen the movie, I’ll tell you the pervading message that I’m getting is that it’s the women that are falling in love with this movie...what this movie has that I think will definitely attract women is heart. It’s so very emotional. The message is simple but it’s really, really sweet.

2

SCENE

Scene in brief

Jolie taking on famous villain role

Angelina Jolie is turning wicked as one of Disney’s most famous villains in *Maleficent*, a live-action twist on *Sleeping Beauty* that’s set for release just under two years from now. Walt Disney Studios announced Monday that *Maleficent* is due in theatres on March 14, 2014. The film will spell out the back story of the evil enchantress in Disney’s animated classic *Sleeping Beauty*.

On the web



Kathleen Turner says Winnipeg play taught her she wasn’t “born to play ingenue”

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The Rolling Stones. Band goes 'into training' for their 50th anniversary

Ronnie Wood says the Rolling Stones will meet in a recording studio later this month "to just throw some ideas around."

The guitarist for the legendary rock group said Monday that he and the band just want "to get the feel again."

He also added that the Rolling Stones 50th anniversary is like training for something big.

"It's like working out for the Olympics or something," Wood said. "You've got to go into training. So we're going to go into training."

Wood made the comments Monday in an interview following a press conference for his exhibition, *Faces, Time and Places*, which features his own paintings. It includes pieces of him and his band mates, as well as Muhammad Ali and Al Pacino.

Wood, who said he first started painting at age three, enjoys doing it because it's a reflection of his own ideas, unlike music, which he calls "a group effort."

The exhibit launched Monday and will close June 30.

Wood's week will get busier when he is inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame on Saturday as a member of The Faces, along with Rod Stewart. It will be the second induction for the 64-year-old Wood. The Rolling Stones were inducted in 1989.

He'll also perform a solo show at the Golden Nugget in Atlantic City, N.J., on April 21. When asked what fans should expect, he said: "Lots of surprises because I'm go-



Ronnie Wood THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Music man

"Lots of people don't know I've made seven, 'cause most of my albums escape; they're not released. Keith (Richards) says they all skyrocket to oblivion."

Ronnie Wood
When asked if he would record another solo album

ing to surprise myself. I don't know what the hell is coming next. The whole set list is going to be made up. I'm making it up every day now."

Wood says he would love to go on a solo tour "if I had enough time, but I have too many commitments."

He also talked about possibly recording another solo album.

"Lots of people don't know I've made seven, 'cause most of my albums escape; they're not released," he said, laughing. "Keith (Richards) says they all skyrocket to oblivion." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Maggie Grace in Lockout HANDOUT

Grace under fire

Maggie Grace. Lost actress talks about her new role in *Lockout* and her accidental ascent as an action star

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Maggie Grace wants to make it clear that while her eye is tearing up, it's not because of anything anyone said. "I'm not crying. I just did a little damage [on set] last night," she says. "I just injured my eye a little bit. I didn't want people to think I was just so emotional."

And then, to undermine her

own point, Grace then launches into a tearful speech about how wonderful *Lockout* co-star Guy Pearce is before breaking down laughing.

Grace, who first rose to fame as the pampered Shannon on *Lost*, has been following an interestingly physical track with her film career, which is something she hadn't expected.

"It's funny, it's become kind of a theme for me — a string of action movies," she says. "I just wrapped *Taken 2* — and I was the girl who would lock myself in the locker room and cry after gym class. So it's just funny what life brings you."

Her latest film, the sci-fi caper *Lockout*, is a part of that action-heavy trend. "I pretty

much looked like a dalmatian," she says about her bruised appearance after filming was completed last autumn in Serbia. Not that she's complaining, of course.

"We arrived in Serbia to start training a little bit early with the wires and do some combat training, so that was really helpful. And also a lot of fun. Probably the closest I'll get to being a trapeze artist myself," she remembers.

And while so much work in the action genre may seem like a happy accident to her, Grace doesn't feel the same way about acting in general.

"I never understand those 'tripped and fell' stories. I don't know how that works," she

"Don't I know you from...?"

With all the travelling she does — and with parts in two beloved franchises (*Lost* and *Twilight*) — Maggie Grace is often stopped by fans.

- So what's she recognized for most these days? "Usually *Taken* lately. For a long time it was *Lost*, and that still comes up. Those are pretty hard-core fans, the *Losties*," she says. "But *Taken*, it's pretty funny. Especially in airports, of course."

says, referring to actors who claim they found their vocation by chance.

"Maybe it sounds sort of modest or something, I don't know. But I feel like I've worked really hard to get where I am, and I'm pretty proud of it."



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Lindsay Lohan being accused of assault ... again



Lindsay Lohan ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

A woman is accusing Lindsay Lohan of attacking her at a party in the Standard Hotel in West Hollywood recently, but Lohan's rep insists the troubled actress didn't even leave her home the night in question, according to TMZ.

And the website seems to be on Lohan's side, for once.

"We have spoken with six people at the hotel — some of whom were working on the night in question — and none of them saw Lindsay that

evening," the site reports.

The woman in question claims she was assaulted by Lohan after chatting up a guy the actress had her eye on.

"Lindsay was absolutely not involved in any sort of altercation whatsoever. This is clearly another case of someone looking for money and 15 minutes of fame," Steve Honig, Lohan's rep, says.

"You have to wonder about someone who calls the media before the police."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Rinna making adult diapers cool



THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Maybe you've seen Lisa Rinna star in a new Depend adult diapers commercial. But in case you haven't, here's the recap: The 48-year-old is filmed wearing a skintight black dress on the red carpet, but, surprise, she's also wearing Depend's new Silhouette for Women line underneath that dress.

"I am wearing an evening gown, for God's sake!" she says in the commercial. "And you can't tell I have it on. Check out the boo-tay!"

She then commands her poor husband Harry Hamlin to touch her tush to check it out for himself.

Surprising? Yes. Commercials for adult diapers are not the most, say, sexy of things to star in. But Rinna swears she's not talking about incontinence in order to keep herself in lip injections — she did it for charity and women's rights.

"They donated \$225,000 to Dress for Success if I tried them on in the commercial," the actress told the Huffington Post, meaning she must have pocketed a little extra on top of that donation. "That's why I did it. Plus, I loved their campaign."

It's not wearing an adult diaper that makes me roll my eyes — it's the fact that she used the word boo-tay to describe her butt.



Miley Cyrus

Miley Cyrus blames weight loss on allergies

Miley Cyrus is striking back against critics who speculate she has an eating disorder.

"For everyone calling me anorexic, I have a gluten and lactose allergy. It's not about weight — it's about health," Cyrus posted on Twitter. "She won't eat 2,000 calories worth of food in one sitting? She must have a problem. I ate today at Easter lunch but all of it

was healthy and even more fulfilling! Health is happiness!"

In fact, Cyrus thinks her food allergy has been a great thing — and is encouraging her fans to dump gluten.

"Everyone should try no gluten for a week! The change in your skin, physical and mental health is amazing! You won't go back," she posted.

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Top 5: April 10th

- 5 One Direction
What Makes You Beautiful
- 4 Fun
We Are Young
- 3 Flo Rida ft Sia
Wild Ones
- 2 Carly Rae Jepsen
Call Me Maybe
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3

LIFE

Travel in brief

Tasmanian tourism banking on Dafoe flick

Tasmanian tourism officials are hoping for spinoffs from *The Hunter*, a thriller starring Willem Dafoe being released this month in North American cinemas. The film was shot entirely in the Australian island state. Some of the wild locales are highlighted online at Discover Tasmania (<http://bit.ly/HakKOp>), the state's official tourism website. The *Hunter* follows Dafoe as he pursues the last Tasmanian tiger through scenery that appears "prehistoric and forbidding," according to a New York Times review. The dog-sized beast has, in fact, been officially extinct for many years, but Discover Tasmania says there have continued to be "countless sightings, some by highly regarded scientists," and is inviting visitors to trek wilderness trails in search of a real-life specimen.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the Web



Bruce Willis says he's willing to give away Idaho ski area to a non-profit

Sunshine and snow — the perfect spring combination

Whistler. Pack your sunscreen and ski gear because the slopes are still open. There's plenty to do for non-skiers, too.

AURÉLIE

RESCH

life@metronews.ca

Skiing or snowboarding in a T-shirt? An après-ski drink on the patio while you work on your tan? BBQ's at 6,000 feet? That's springtime in Whistler. Although the weather is warming, there are still lots of great activities and attractions — not to mention spring prices and rates — to take advantage of!

Spring skiing/snowboarding is the perfect mix of sunshine and snow. The snow is melting elsewhere but high up on the mountains, the conditions are still great for those who can't get enough of the slopes.

This year, the spring ski season extends through April on Whistler Mountain and through May on Blackcomb Mountain.

In June when mountain biking takes over Whistler, the hardcore skiers (or those who appreciate a little novelty) can continue to ski on Blackcomb Glacier.

For those looking for a less physically strenuous activity at Whistler, black bear watching is one option.

Whistler is home to up to 70 black bears who can be seen coming out of hibernation on the grassy slopes of the mountains during mid-to-late spring and throughout summer. Starting mid-May, visitors can take part in a black bear viewing tour from the safety of 4x4 vehicles, where experienced nature guides will lead you to popular bear viewing spots.



Nothing feels better than getting a tan on a ski hill. PHOTOS: AURÉLIE RESCH/METRO

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Anna Olson makes sweet endings a little bit sweeter



Anna Olson films her new series out of her own kitchen in the Niagara, Ont. area. She often donates extra treats to local shelters and hospices. HANDOUT

**DELIA
MACPHERSON**
For Metro Canada

Anna Olson sums up how she stays in such great shape (despite all the sweets) in one word: balance.

"I love my breakfasts," she says. "I eat oatmeal. It keeps me from snacking on the wrong things throughout the day."

Like decadent cookies and moist cakes? "It's not good to deny yourself a treat, just like it's not good to over indulge," adds the celebrity chef, whose new show, *Bake with Anna Olson*, starts airing Thursday on the Food Network Canada.

The show features baking tips that have taken Olson years to figure out, like using a whisk to fold egg whites into batter rather than a spatula, or double-checking your measuring spoons and cups for accuracy. "You'd be surprised on how many are wrong," she says.

Olson recommends that if you're going to eat sweets, bake them yourself, because homemade baked goods taste better than store-bought and don't have overly processed ingredi-

- Top 5 Pie Crust Tips**
- 1 Relax and don't listen to your inner negativity.
 - 2 Don't add too much water and don't let it get too warm.
 - 3 Follow the recipe. If it calls for ice-cold butter, it probably needs ice-cold water too.
 - 4 You don't need fancy tools. Pie pastry can be brought together with two knives.
 - 5 Practice makes perfect.

ents. "Baking at home means you control the ingredients, so you know exactly what's going in," she says. "When you're baking, you bake to share."

Making homemade, she adds, can also allow you to control the portions. For example, make cookies twice as small so you only eat half a portion.

Bake with Anna Olson also airs on Saturdays.

Pie Dough. This crust is ideal with wet fillings like coconut cream



This recipe is designed for pies that have a wet filling, such as pumpkin, coconut cream and butter tarts. Make a half recipe if you just need a single crust.

1. Combine flour, sugar and salt in a bowl. Cut in butter by hand with pastry cutter until only small pieces of butter are visible and mix begins to take on pale yellow colour.

2. Stir water and lemon juice together. Add to dough, mixing until the dough just comes together. Shape dough into two discs, wrap and chill for at least two hours before roll-

ing. Alternatively, dough can be frozen for up to three months and thawed in the fridge before rolling.

COURTESY OF FOOD NETWORK CANADA (FROM EPISODE 2 OF *BAKE WITH ANNA OLSON*, AIRING APRIL 12)

Ingredients

- 2 ¼ cups cake & pastry flour
- 2 tbsp sugar
- ¼ tsp salt
- 1 cup cold unsalted butter, cut into pieces
- 6 tbsp cold water
- 1 tbsp lemon juice

Sharability



easy

hard

Top travel tips. Advice for students hoping to learn in another land

• Immerse yourself in the culture: a large part of studying abroad is to experience another culture. You can broaden your perspective by learning the local language, making friends with domestic students and researching the country's history and cultural practices.

• Take rewarding academic courses: take advantage of the interesting courses not offered at your home school. Some courses are also more interesting when they are learned abroad — imagine learning art history in France or taking Italian in Italy! **TRACY ZHANG**

Worldliness at work

Leverage the experience professionally

- Having an international experience on the resumé can help you stand out in the workforce. Even if it doesn't help you connect with potential employers, at the very least it makes for an interesting discussion in an interview setting. Some of my friends who studied abroad also networked with alumni in the country and landed international job offers.



Travel became my teacher: On education in another nation

Books in a backpack. How studying abroad can benefit you both academically and professionally

TRACY ZHANG

Talentegg.ca

From watching the sun set over the Acropolis in Athens to watching the Christmas lights light up Champs-Élysée, some of my best memories are from studying abroad.

The strength of its international exchange program was one of the reasons I chose to study at the Queen's University School of Business, and I was determined to make the most out of the opportunity by spending two semesters abroad.

In September of 2010, I set out to study in France at HEC Paris International Business School; by January 2011, I had bid France farewell and headed for England, where I studied at the Bader International Study Centre.



Tracy Zhang and friends in Athens, Greece. SUBMITTED

I enrolled in an international policy course taught by a Harvard professor, a class on French culture and another on French society. By the end of the semester, not only did I learn how to do business in France, but I also gained a strong understanding of the French education system, government, economy and, of course, gastronomy.

When it was time to go to the UK, I became so interested

in the business landscape in Europe that I decided to pursue my undergrad degree specialization in international business.

Outside of the classroom, I was anxious to explore Europe since it was my first time there. I invested in a train pass on a student discount and journeyed all over the continent — to 19 countries to be exact. As a way to document my travels, I also began to publish photographs from my trips on my blog.

When my blog's following edged past 700 subscribers, I began to receive emails from magazines and tourism boards asking to publish my photo-

graphs. Studying and travelling in Europe not only opened the door for me to freelance as a photographer, but also helped me connect with many other travel enthusiasts.

After I returned home from Europe to begin my summer internship, I learned that my manager had just moved to Canada from France. We immediately bonded over my exchange experience in Paris. Having that common ground allowed me to build great rapport with my manager, who provided me with constant professional support throughout the summer.

When I look back on my time in Europe, I feel lucky to have been able to explore another continent, enrich my academic life, and leverage the experience in the workplace. My year abroad benefited me immensely — I can't imagine my university education any other way!

TRACY ZHANG IS A FOURTH YEAR STUDENT AT QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY.

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Business abroad

When it was time to go to the UK, I became so interested in the business landscape in Europe that I decided to pursue my undergrad degree specialization in international business."

Tracy Zhang

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Yes, I would like to travail

A cultural classroom.

Translating lessons learned on the road into the working world

JUSTINE ABIGAIL YU

Talentegg.ca

Travelling, for all its splendour, entails hardship. And hardship brings out skills, qualities and lessons that'll prove to be invaluable in the workforce. Here are two I learned while on the road...

You've got to be enterprising.

The word itself reeks of business savvy, doesn't it? But seriously, when you're on the road in some foreign country with nothing but a backpack and a few bucks in your bank account, you've got no choice but to be enterprising and resourceful.

You may very well find yourself in a small town in Italy with no place to sleep for one night because of some error in your accommodation booking. What do you do? You talk to hostel owners and receptionists to see if they have any inside hookups. Or if worse comes to worst, you sleep in the train station for one night. Whatever the case, you do what you can and make



Justine Abigail Yu SUBMITTED

the most out of the situation.

The same is true in a business context. There'll always be a time when you've got limited resources, time or knowledge but you've got to muster up all of your creativity and find a way to work with what you've got. And trust me, there is always a way.

Cultural sensitivity and communication is everything.

Learning how to say something as simple as thank you in Khmer or Thai (aw kuhn or khob-kun-Ka, respectively) while bowing your head deep-

ly to show your utmost respect goes a long way. Awareness of people's cultural, spiritual and religious traditions is a trait that is not only important in the workforce but in life in general. In our highly globalized world, where we are in contact with individuals with such varied backgrounds, communicating with cultural sensitivity and understanding can set you apart from many others who have not had this first-hand experience overseas. **JUSTINE ABIGAIL YU IS A COMMUNICATIONS PROFESSIONAL BY DAY AND A FREELANCE WRITER BY NIGHT.**

Spark plug

Remparts' McNamee steps up big in win

Michael McNamee gave the Quebec Remparts a new source of offence on Tuesday night.

Although McNamee had just one point in six previous playoff games, the 19-year-old centre stepped up with a hat trick to lift the Remparts to a 5-3 win over the Halifax Mooseheads and give them a 3-0 lead in the QMJHL best-of-seven quarter-final.

According to Remparts head coach Patrick Roy, McNamee and linemates Logan Shaw and Adam Erne were "low in confidence" entering Tuesday's game.

"When I met with them (before the game), I told them that confidence is a fragile thing, but at the same time, it can be turned around very fast," Roy said. "It's a matter of doing the right things and eventually it's going to pay off."

The line of Gabriel Desjardins, Alexandre Comtois and Jeremie Malouin had done most of the heavy lifting for the Remparts through two games in Quebec City, playing a role in five of the team's eight goals.

"It was nice to see the depth we have," Roy said.

McNamee, the game's first star, scored all of his goals on the doorstep of Mooseheads goaltender Zach Fucale's net, which Roy said was the key to his success.

"It's no secret in the game anymore," Roy said. "If you go to the net, you're going to get some goals. If you stay on the outside, it's going to be tough."

MATTHEW WUEST/METRO



Remparts head coach Patrick Roy reacts during the game.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO



Remparts forward Michael McNamee celebrates his second-period goal against goalie Zach Fucale and the Halifax Mooseheads on Tuesday night. The Remparts beat the Mooseheads 5-3. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Resilient Remparts pull out win again

Collapse. Mooseheads blow 3-1 lead in loss and face elimination at Metro Centre on Wednesday night



MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

The Halifax Mooseheads have no problem getting leads. But it's their inability to make any stick that has their season on the ropes.

The Mooseheads let a 3-1 second-period lead evaporate in a matter of 94 demoralizing seconds on Tuesday night at the Metro Centre and ended up losing 5-3 to the Quebec Remparts. It leaves them behind 3-0 in the QMJHL best-of-seven quarter-final and facing elimination on home ice on Wednesday night.

Michael McNamee's hat-trick goal at 7:32 of the third period clinched it for the Remparts, who added

an empty-netter in the final minute.

"It's pretty disappointing — again, we had the lead, gave it away, and we've got to stop letting them in the game," said Mooseheads captain Cameron Critchlow. "We have to tighten up. We have to learn our best shift has to be after a goal. We seem to let down after we get up."

It's plagued the Mooseheads all series. They've had six one-goal leads through three games. None have lasted more than 17 minutes, while three haven't lasted more than five.

Mooseheads winger Alexandre Grenier had the crowd of 8,204 in an uproar at 9:10 of the second period when he made it 3-1 to give Halifax its first two-goal lead of the series. But Kurt Etchegary cut the lead to one just 41 seconds later to abruptly swing momentum in Quebec's favour. McNamee quickly tied it 3-3 at 10:44.

Critchlow said the Mooseheads continue to get burned because they're not

following instructions from behind the bench.

"We're letting each other down and especially letting the coaches down," Critchlow said. "They're doing everything they can to give us a game plan that's effective when we do it, and then we get away from it. It's our own fault."

The Remparts still haven't led a game going into the third period and have only played with the lead for approximately 30 minutes through more than 186 minutes of action in the series.

"We've been resilient and we're a confident group," said Remparts head coach Patrick Roy. "Any team that wants to go far in the playoffs, they will face adversity. It's how you deal with it, and our team has dealt well with it."

It's believed only three teams in QMJHL history have recovered from 3-0 deficits to win a series. Among them, the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles pulled it off in 2000-01.

"We just have to get

Game notes

- Mooseheads winger Brad Cuzner, a key penalty killer and energy player, missed the final two periods on Tuesday night with what the team is calling an upper-body injury.
- Mooseheads goaltender Zach Fucale made a number of highlight-reel stops in a 32-save performance. Halifax was out-shot 37-22 in the game and trails 96-58 in that category in the series.
- Mooseheads defenceman Konrad Abeltshauser was the second star with a goal and an assist.

On the web

For more coverage of the Halifax Mooseheads, follow @metroqfiles on Twitter or visit The Q Files blog at metronews.ca/qfiles.

4

SPORTS

QMJHL

Sea Dogs take 3-0 lead

Cole Harbour's Stephen MacAulay had a goal and an assist for the Saint John Sea Dogs in a 5-2 win over the host Baie-Comeau Drakkar in QMJHL quarter-final play on Tuesday night. The Sea Dogs have a 3-0 lead in the best-of-seven series and can advance to the semifinals with a win on Wednesday. Elsewhere, the Shawinigan Cataractes beat the Chicoutimi Saguenéens to grab a 2-1 lead in that quarter-final, while the Blainville-Boisbriand Armada topped the Rimouski Oceanic 5-3 to take a 2-1 in the only other series.

Rangers (1) vs. Senators (8)

Season series: Ottawa went 3-1-0.

Lowdown: The Senators exceeded expectations and believe they're in position to pull off an upset. The Sens had success against a Rangers team that was the class of the East. New York, led by goalie Henrik Lundqvist, boasts a less potent attack than the Sens.

Pick: Rangers in six.

Bruins (2) vs. Capitals (7)

Season series: Washington went 3-1-0.

Lowdown: The Bruins begin their quest for another cup against a Capitals team that could be dangerous with Nicklas Backstrom and Mike Green returning from injuries. Key players Tim Thomas, Zdeno Chara, Patrice Bergeron and the emerging Tyler Seguin remain in Boston.

Pick: Bruins in six.

Panthers (3) vs. Devils (6)

Season series: Florida went 2-1-1.

Lowdown: The Panthers finished with fewer points but got the higher seed by winning their division. The Devils' Ilya Kovalchuk is the series' best player but has played in just nine playoff games.

Pick: Devils in five.

Penguins (4) vs. Flyers (5)

Season series: Philadelphia went 4-2-0.

Lowdown: It's being billed as the series to watch. The storylines are endless — from Sidney Crosby's playoff return to Jaromir Jagr and Max Talbot returning to Pittsburgh as Flyers, to questions surrounding Philly goalie Ilya Bryzgalov. The only guarantee is one contender will be eliminated.

Pick: Pens in seven.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Let the Flyers-Pens 'bloodbath' begin

NHL. Crosby, Malkin downplay Flyers' trash talk ahead of Game 1

Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin spent last spring watching their Pittsburgh Penguins teammates try to carry on without them, a burden that became too much during a seven-game loss to upstart Tampa Bay in the opening round.

A year later, the helpless feeling of trudging around in a suit while the franchise they expected to carry to a

Stanley Cup floundered on the ice below them remains fresh.

The memory of the long ride down the elevator from the press box to the quiet dressing room following a listless 1-0 defeat in Game 7 is why Crosby never considered shutting it down this season despite a 15-month battle with concussion-like symptoms while Malkin became arguably the best player in the world while playing on a

completely rebuilt knee.

It's also why neither player is eager to engage in a war of words with rival Philadelphia in the run-up to Pittsburgh's first-round meeting with the Flyers starting Wednesday.

The opponent is almost immaterial to two players used to writing "playoffs" on their calendar every season in ink, not pencil.

"I think, if anything, you just appreciate being in the playoffs even more," Crosby said. "It's not an automatic thing."

Neither is getting past the first round.

Pittsburgh enters the post-season with the league's best record since Jan. 1 and a roster eager to bookend the Stanley Cup trophy they won in 2009.

Quoted

of bears — bears in the forest."

Flyers goalie Ilya Bryzgalov on the series vs. the Penguins.

Meanwhile, Philadelphia traded veterans Jeff Carter and Mike Richards following a second-round loss to Boston last year, yet barely missed a beat.

The players change but the mindset in Philadelphia does not. The Flyers are still aggressive, both on the ice and in front of a microphone.

Coach Peter Laviolette didn't hesitate to call Pittsburgh's Dan Bylsma "gutless" for sending out a checking line in the late stages of a 6-4 Philadelphia win on April 1, a move that led to a brawl following Joe Vitale's punishing — if clean — hit on Philadelphia's Danny Briere.

Perhaps, but the Flyers have a way of getting underneath the skin of an opponent. Forward Scott Hartnell embraces the villain role better than any player in the league.

He talked openly about wanting to punch Malkin, Crosby and defenceman Kris Letang in the face if given the opportunity and has predicted the series will turn into a "bloodbath." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canucks (1) vs. Kings (8)

Season series: Vancouver went 2-1-1.

Lowdown: Regular-season champs for a second straight year, Vancouver is looking to get one more win this spring than last.

Arguably the only reason L.A. got into the playoffs is goalie Jonathan Quick, who registered 10 shutouts. Pick: Canucks in seven.

Blues (2) vs. Sharks (7)

Season series: St. Louis went 4-0-0.

Lowdown: The jockeying started early with Sharks coach Todd McLellan pronouncing his team the underdog and noting the pressure St. Louis is under.

While that's true based on the regular season, San Jose holds an undisputed edge in playoff experience after advancing to the Western Conference final the last two years. Pick: St. Louis in five.

Coyotes (3) vs. Blackhawks (6)

Season series: Phoenix went 3-1-0.

Lowdown: The Coyotes are trying to win their first playoff series since moving to the desert in 1996. They have drawn Chicago, with a captain (Jonathan Toews) who has concussion problems and a goalie (Corey Crawford) who is struggling. Pick: Hawks in five.

Predators (4) vs. Wings (5)

Season series: Tied 3-3-0.

Lowdown: This series pits the up-and-comers (Nashville) against the wily veterans (Detroit).

Preds GM David Poile believes he's built a cup contender.

But Detroit has lost just once in the first-round since the lockout and have welcomed back a number of injured players. Pick: Preds in seven. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canucks. Sedin's status up in the air ahead of Game 1

The Vancouver Canucks kick off the NHL playoffs Wednesday night against the Los Angeles Kings, but whether Daniel Sedin will be on the ice remains a mystery.

The Canucks star was a no-show at practice but skated

with a few teammates afterward. He had been scheduled to speak to reporters, a session the club promoted on its website beforehand. But he was not made available.

"It's a unique injury, and he will continue the protocol," said coach Alain Vigneault. "When he's ready to play, he'll address you. Until that time, he won't talk to you."

Hopes were raised Monday when Sedin, out with a concussion since March 21, practised with the team for the first time since he was injured. While he didn't speak to the media, his teammate and twin brother Henrik said he was "100 per cent." Daniel Sedin was expected to take part in his second team workout Tuesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Daniel Sedin GETTY IMAGES/FILE

Capitals. Third-stringer Holtby expected to start



Braden Holtby GETTY IMAGES/FILE

Washington Capitals goalie Michal Neuvirth is uncertain whether he'll be able to play in the first-round playoff series against the Boston Bruins.

Neuvirth returned to practice Tuesday for the first time since injuring his left leg last week, but wasn't able to stay on the ice. Asked if he thinks he'll play against Boston, he said: "I don't have the answer."

Tomas Vokoun is more pessimistic. He skated before practice on his injured groin and said: "I'm disappointed as anyone that it turned out this way, but I try and I just can't do it. It's a groin, and for a goalie that's essential."

Third-choice Braden Holtby is expected to make his playoff debut in Game 1 in Boston on Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The lighter side of luxury



ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Backing up

Infiniti has made most of its advanced electronic safety and crash-avoiding accessories available for the JX, plus a couple of first-time features. Leading this group is Backup Collision Intervention (BCI) that, when the JX is reversing, can detect vehicles in close proximity or crossing diagonally behind and apply the brakes.



The power lift gate gives you access to the largest cargo hold in its class.

All-wheel-drive

For the Canadian market, the JX comes standard with an on-demand all-wheel-drive system that directs 100 per cent of the engine's torque to the front under normal driving conditions, but can split off half to the rear wheels to maximize grip under slippery conditions.

2013 Infiniti JX

- **Type.** Four-door, all-wheel-drive luxury wagon.
- **Engine (hp):** 3.5-litre DOHC V6 (265).
- **Mileage:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 11.5/8.5.
- **Base Price (incl. destination):** \$46,900.

Engine

The heart of the JX is the same familiar 3.5-litre V6 that can be found on a number of Nissan/Infiniti products. For the JX application, it produces 265 horsepower and 248 pound-feet of torque. That's not a lot of thrust for this category, especially when non-luxury seven-passenger brands like the Mazda CX-9 pack more power.

Review. Sitting pretty with seven-passenger utility and a smaller footprint

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

It's said that portion control is an essential part of any successful weight-loss program. That appears to be what Infiniti is practising with its scaled-down seven-passenger JX35 wagon.

Nissan's premium division currently markets the eight-passenger QX56 that uses Nissan's Titan truck chassis and 400-horsepower V8. But it demands a \$75,000 entry

fee and possesses a significant appetite for fuel that requires increasingly deeper pockets to satisfy.

It also checks in at a chunky 2,545 kilograms, which makes it a less-than-lithe dance partner on the highway or when negotiating a parking spot.

By contrast, the spanking new JX35 carries up to seven people across three rows of

seats, but due to its passenger-car construction and smaller engine, it weighs about 365 kilograms less than the QX.

It also touts a base price that's about \$30,000 shy of its bigger sibling.

The JX gives Infiniti buyers another option in a category that includes the Acura MDX, Buick Enclave, Volvo XC90 and Lincoln MKT.

They now represent the

luxury-class sweet spot as more buyers defect from the traditional sport utility vehicles to more size and fuel-efficient models.

At \$46,900 including destination charges, the JX35 makes a strong case for consideration in the luxury wagon-on bracket, where being in shape and packing the right gear gets you noticed every time.

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Chevy Silverado 'tows like a dream'

Second Gear.

Ten years of trailblazing for the sturdy pickup

JUSTIN
PRITCHARD

Drive@metronews.ca

The 1997 to 2007 generation of Chevrolet's Silverado pickup truck offered numerous engine and driveline combinations, including six and eight cylinder power, automatic and manual transmissions and two or four-wheel drive.

Numerous body and box combinations were also available. When shopping used, LS and LT models were even more highly-equipped, though more basic "work" trucks could also be had.



TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE


Common Issues

As a bare minimum, a Chevrolet-trained mechanic should check the underside of your potential used truck for signs of excessive rust, dents or holes, leaking differentials, transfer case leaks and oil or coolant leaks from the engine.

Ensure the vehicle's four-wheel drive system (if equipped) can be shifted between its various modes as outlined in the owner's manual. Check the engine oil level and condition, as some owners have reported oil consumption issues. Avoid a model that's low on oil, or with engine oil that looks dirty or burned.


Engine



 A V6 engine, as well as numerous V8 engines, could be specified for Silverado models. Automatic or manual transmissions and two or four-wheel drive were also available, depending on the model in question.


What Owners Like



 Owners note a roomy cabin, confident passing and towing power, a pleasing ride and a solid, heavy-duty feel. Mileage is often rated highly too — particularly on the 4.8L and 5.3L-powered models. Many owners say their Silverado “tows like a dream.”

What Owners Dislike



 A more positive and precise brake-pedal feel, a better standard audio system, and higher-quality interior trim are on the wish-lists of many owners.

Verdict

A careful test drive and inspection from a GM-trained mechanic familiar with Silverado's potential issues should be considered mandatory. A healthy last-generation model appears ideal for those after proven performance, comfort and confident towing.



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F-150 XTR SuperCrew model shown



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Auto lighting: More than just pretty colours

Driving Force.

According to Ford, interior lights are important factors to drivers

JIL MCINTOSH
Drive@metronews.ca

Light and colour can be powerful forces, affecting our eyes and even our moods and perception. That can be very important when you're driving so automakers design their interior lighting to reduce eye strain, draw your attention to important information and make the vehicle soothing and comfortable.

"We look at how people interact with colours," says Mahendra Dassanayake, technical leader in optoelectronics for Ford Motor Company.

"Lights, graphics and displays are critical to drivers [and] we need to make sure that the information is presented to the customer in an effective way."

On the upcoming redesigned Ford Fusion, drivers will be able to select the car's ambient lighting from

Did you know?

- Certain levels or combinations of light trigger enzymes in the brain, which cause emotional responses. Automakers use these responses when determining what type of lighting should be used for various functions.
- Auto lighting designers must take the outside environment into consideration: lights inside the vehicle must display equally well in daytime or nighttime conditions.

a choice of ice blue, blue, purple, orange, red, white or green. The company says that ice-blue lighting is a particularly strong choice, since it can help keep occupants more alert, and makes it easier for drivers to notice other information the car is providing. Green relaxes people, who breathe slowly and deeply in its presence. Orange is described as "outgoing and optimistic," while red evokes strong emotions and gets your attention right away.

Messages communicated via the instrument cluster

are colour-coded as well.

"These are red, amber or green, depending on how critical the information is," Dassanayake says. Just as a traffic signals use these three colours to indicate stop, caution or move ahead, the car's warning lights are coded similarly. A mild warning such as a reminder from the tire pressure monitoring system would warrant an amber light, while an urgent one, such as low oil pressure, flashes red to immediately grab the driver's attention.

The company also uses colour-coding on its MyFord Touch system, an in-dash touch-screen that accesses the vehicle's climate, entertainment, telephone and navigation systems. With a different colour dedicated to each of the four areas, the driver can potentially find a specific function faster than reading each heading, which means less time looking away from the road.

Automotive lighting will continue to evolve as new engineering and technologies are developed, Dassanayake says. And the field is wide open: other than grey or brown, there are no colours that aren't open to consideration.

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Electric luxury coming down the wire

Autopilot



AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

New York is one city that likes its electricity, especially in and around Times Square. It's also a city that prides itself as a purveyor of various luxury items, like \$100 lunches and \$35 per hour parking spots.

So this week's New York International Auto Show isn't a bad venue at all, for the world debut of the Infiniti LE Concept. When it shows up in production form, sometime within the next two years, the Infiniti LE will be the first full-electric vehicle from a major luxury brand.

With a few notable exceptions, production electric cars have so far been smaller, "hatchback" designs, which also wear their electric-ness on their sleeves. That's what makes this Infiniti concept, purported to be about 80 per cent true to its production-ready form, such an interesting development. Early

adopters and green enthusiasts might be willing to take a few hits for the team, but will the luxury consumer?

If it doesn't cut it as a luxury car, it won't matter whether it's powered by electricity, petroleum, or linoleum.

Infiniti is confident it can make electricity work for that luxury buyer. Big range and big speeds require big batteries, which in turn are heavy and need long charging times.

Heavy is not good for handling and performance. Long charging times are not good for A-type personalities with places to go and people to see. Infiniti says the LE will crack this conundrum with lightweight structures (aluminum panels), super aerodynamics (coefficient of drag of 0.25), high-tech batteries (Lithium-ion), and two charging systems (plug in and wireless).

If all goes according to plan, the LE will be the first production vehicle with a built-in wireless charging system. Wireless charging via "inductive" energy flow has been around for decades. A lot of people have inductive stoves. One energy coil is con-



Expect the beautiful, all-electric Infiniti LE Concept to show up on roads sometime within the next two years. CONTRIBUTED

nected to an energy source. It creates a magnetic field that excites electrical current in a second coil. In the LE's case, a coil is located at the rear of the car, and the other coil, the one connected to a power source, could be safely encased on the garage floor.

But inductive systems are usually only 80 per cent as efficient in transferring electricity as the normal, with-a-plug way.

"Less efficiency, yes,

but tons of convenience," counters Andy Palmer, a Nissan vice-president with a lot on his plate, including global operations of Infiniti.

He's got a point. Just roll into your garage, and if you've bookmarked the parking place in the GPS, the Infiniti is ready to "self park" precisely over the charging spot, with a feature called Intelligent Park Assist. But Palmer is most proud of the concept's sleek bodylines. He

noted it was extremely difficult to achieve those precise, sharp lines in the aluminum body panels. Three times they started again, to make sure this all-electric car was all Infiniti and all luxury.

Of all the automakers, Nissan-Renault has placed the biggest bet on electric vehicles.

The partners have gone on record saying they intend to sell 1.5 million electric vehicles by 2016.

2016 is the year when automakers have to achieve very low emission standards, so low that many wonder how automakers can meet them with the current technology. Nissan-Renault has decided they'll do it by having a lot of zero-emission electric cars in the mix.

If they keep at least some of them as good looking as the LE Concept, it certainly wouldn't hinder that strategy's success.

REFRESH YOUR RIDE

spring service event

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The Refresh Your Ride event expires April 30, 2012



Service

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All offers expire April 30, 2012. Offers may be cancelled at any time without notice. See Service Advisor for complete details. Applicable taxes and provincial levies not included. Dealer may sell for less. Only available at participating locations. †Applies to single rear wheel vehicles only. Diesel models not eligible. *Up to 5 litres of oil. Disposal fees may be extra. Does not apply to diesel engines. ‡Based on a Ford Fusion V6 automatic that has a fuel consumption rating of 10L/100 km in combined city/highway driving (properly tuned), a one-year driving distance of 24,000 km and \$1.02 per litre for gasoline. Improved fuel efficiency and emission reduction levels depend on model, year and condition of vehicle. †† In order to receive a local competitor's advertised price: (i) tires must be purchased and installed at your participating Ford Dealer; (ii) customer must present the competitor's actual local advertisement (containing the lower price) which must have been printed within 30 days of the sale; and (iii) the tires being purchased must be the same brand, sidewall, speed and load ratings as shown in the competitive advertisement. Offer only available at participating Ford dealerships. This offer is valid on the cost of the tire only and does not include labour costs, valve stems, mounting, balancing, disposal, and taxes. Offer does not apply to advertised prices outside of Canada, in eBay advertisements, by the wholesaler, and online tire retailers, or discount, special order, discontinued and clearance liquidation offers. Limited time offer. Offer may be cancelled or changed at any time without prior notice. See your Service Advisor for details. ††† Rebate offers are manufacturer's mail-in rebates. Rebates available on select General (credit card gift card), Continental (credit card gift card), Goodyear (credit card gift card), Michelin (credit card gift card), and Michelin tires. Offers are valid on qualifying sets of four tires, purchased and installed at participating locations during the respective promotion periods for each tire brand. Offer is valid on the cost of the tire(s) only and does not include labour costs, valve stems, mounting, balancing, disposal, and taxes. Amount of rebate, start dates and expiration dates vary depending on tire manufacturer. It is the responsibility of the customer to submit the required claim forms and proof of purchase to the relevant tire manufacturer with sufficient postage by the required deadline for that rebate offer. See your Service Advisor for complete details and claim forms. †††† Available on most brands at participating locations only. Limited time offer. Price reductions vary: \$700 on 17"-14" rims, \$10,000 on 15" and 16" rims, \$12,500 on 17" rims, \$15,000 on 18"-20" rims, \$20,000 on 21" rims, \$25,000 on 22" and up rims. See Dealer for full details. ††††† Ford Protection Plan is only available for non-commercial cars and light trucks. If an eligible Ford, Motorcraft® or Ford-approved part fails due to a defect in material or workmanship, wear out or rust through, it will be replaced at no charge as long as the original purchaser of the part owns the vehicle on which the part was installed. Labour is covered for the first 12 months or 20,000 km (whichever occurs first) after the date of installation. Emergency brake pads are not eligible under this plan. See Service Advisor for complete details and limitations. **Excludes emergency brake pads or shoes. Machining or replacement of rotors and drums available at additional cost. ©2012 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved.

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at Storage Inn Self Storage, 3490 Prescott
St., Halifax, N.S. The auction will take place
on **Wednesday, April 25, 2012**
starting at 10:30 am at
3490 Prescott Street, Halifax, N.S. and at
subsequent sales until sold.
The personal effects and belongings of the
following tenant will be sold:
Mike Huggan Unit 2028
Minister Cynthia Mapp Unit 2065
Larry Smith Unit 1200
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Crossword

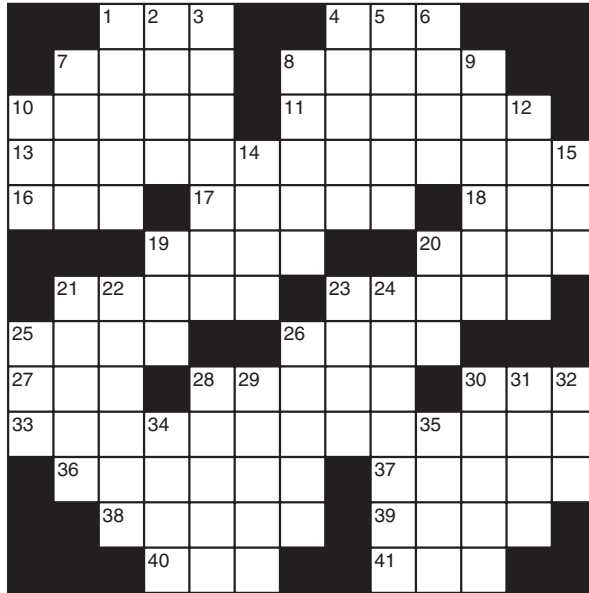
Across

- 1 Hosiery shade
4 College stat
7 Met melody
8 BBQ load
10 Part of the flora
11 Juicy bit of gossip
13 It sucks
16 Attempt
17 Pay increase
18 Rotation duration
19 Count counterpart
20 Create
21 Resided
23 Exposes
25 Welsh veggie
26 Strictly entre —
27 Recede
28 Detroit team
30 Springtime abbr.
33 Thermoses
36 Impish one
37 Burst forth
38 Become one
39 Spectacles selection
40 Witness
41 Type measures

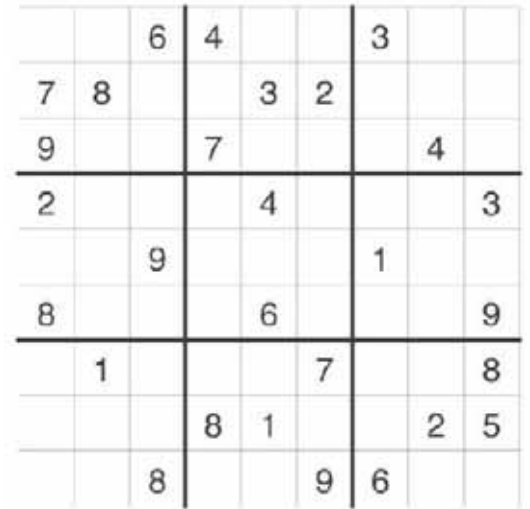
Down

- 1 Frequent Hepburn co-star
2 Japanese indigene
3 Neither sharp nor flat
4 Soccer scores

- 5 Cole Porter subject
6 — Romeo
7 Winged
8 Beany's pal
9 Soda-shop treat
10 Beetle Bailey's rank (Abbr.)
12 Plumbing problems
14 Shopping center
15 "Catcher in the —"
19 Comic-strip squeal
20 "— Doubtfire"
21 Preclude
22 PC pic producer
23 U2 lead singer
24 Spartan
25 Pentateuch bk.
26 Aristocratic
28 Money, especially when "filthy"
29 Mirror's offering
30 Graduates
31 Energizes, with "up"
32 Queue after Q
34 Works with
35 Spruce



Sudoku



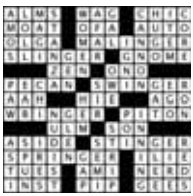
How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

8	5	3	1	7	0	9	2	4
7	4	9	3	2	5	1	0	8
1	6	2	4	0	8	3	7	5
3	7	1	8	6	2	5	4	0
6	2	5	9	0	4	7	8	1
4	9	8	5	1	7	2	3	6
2	8	4	7	5	0	6	1	0
9	3	7	6	4	1	6	5	2
5	1	6	2	0	3	4	9	7

Yesterday's Crossword



Cryptoquip

How to play

This is a substitution cipher where one letter stands for another. Eg: If X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle.

Z H H M A B K K , Z L T X R M
K I D N R Y A C B A L O Z F D A O A
T X Z F M Z V A C E Q G E Z Q N X J Z
J Z V A K I F H O N G A G K Y A O .
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINGER JOHNNY AND
COMIC JIM SHOULD'VE BEGUN A BUSINESS,
GIVING IT THE TITLE CASH AND CARREY.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals Z



For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Today

14°/3°
Partly cloudy

Thursday

10°/0°
Rain
90%

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Horoscope

♈ Aries | March 21 - April 20.
Just because someone is acting strangely does not mean they are up to no good.
♉ Taurus | April 21 - May 21.
The only thing you can be sure of is that you can't be sure of anything. If you keep that fact in mind at all times today, you'll do OK.
♊ Gemini | May 22 - June 20.
If you make a friend or family member a promise today make sure you are in a position to deliver.
♋ Cancer | June 21 - July 22.
No one expects you to be on top of your game every minute of every day, so why expect it of yourself?

♌ Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. People will pat you on the back and tell you what a great job you are doing. What you do today will be brilliant too.
♍ Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. You may find it hard to take someone seriously today but you must take what they tell you seriously.
♎ Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. Something you hear will upset you today. It isn't aimed at you personally, so why be put out by it?
♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. You possess an unshakable belief in your own abilities. But you don't seem to understand why others have doubts about you. Make it your business to find out.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. You may not see how the changes taking place in your world are for the best, but they are.
♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan. 20. It's OK to visualize where you want to be ten years from now but it's what you do each and every day that builds the future.
♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb. 18. You may be unhappy with a certain situation but it would be unwise to give up on it now.
♓ Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. You are smart enough to find your own way out of a difficult situation but why not get some assistance?
SALLY BROMPTON



Caption Contest

"Till death do us part?"

Emily

YVES LOGGHE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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